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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/218,783	12/22/1998	PEGGY M. STUMER	98-P-7977-US	2633

7590 06/26/2006

SIEMENS CORPORATION
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
186 WOOD AVENUE SOUTH
ISELIN, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

KNOWLIN, THJUAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

DATE MAILED: 06/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/218,783	Applicant(s) STUMER ET AL.	
	Examiner Thjuan P. Knowlin	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 December 1998 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's RCE and amendment filed on April 04, 2006 has been entered. Claims 1, 3-4, 9, 11-12, 14-20, and 22-27 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Claims 1-27 are still pending in this application, with claims 1, 9, 12, 15, 22, and 27 being independent.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miloslavsky (US 6,229,888), in view of Grunsted et al (US 6,192,123).
3. In regards to claims 1, 9, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 27, Miloslavsky discloses a group pickup system (See Fig. 2, call center 162, and call center 180) and method in a communication network (See Fig. 2) having one or more servers (See Fig. 2, CTI server 170, and CTI server 184), comprising: one or more call group locations associated with different ones of said one or more servers (See col. 1 lines 12-14, col. 2 lines 15-19, and col. 4-5 lines 66-7); an invite request unit to invoke the group pickup system (See col. 2 lines 38-49 and col. 8 lines 17-31); a group pickup request unit

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responsive to said invite request unit to establish a connection to a group pickup destination (See Fig. 2 and call center 180) to enable a caller station to be picked up from said destination, said destination comprising any of said one or more group locations and selected responsive to one of an alerting group member location and a responding group member location; and a retrieval request unit to connect a call pickup system station with said caller station (See col. 2 lines 38-60 and col. 8 lines 17-40).

Miloslavsky, however, does not disclose each of said one or more servers including call group lists of members for each call group, said each call group having listed members from said one or more call group locations. Grunsted, however, does disclose each of said one or more servers (See Fig. 2 and web server 210) including call group lists (e.g., phone lists and conference call groups) of members for each call group, said each call group having listed members (e.g., persons listed in the conference call group) from said one or more call group locations (See col. 4 lines 20-33 and col. 6 lines 18-43).

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ this feature within system, as a way of making easier to make conference calls to the same group. This would improve the systems storage, as well as eliminate the need for a user to dial each telephone number for a group every time that he or she wishes to make a conference call.

4. In regards to claims 2, 10, 13, and 25, Miloslavsky discloses the system and method, further including an exception handler adapted to handle failures (e.g., traffic, busy, no answer) in the group pickup system (See Abstract and col. 4 lines 24-30).

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5. In regards to claims 3, 11, 14, and 26, Miloslavsky discloses all of claims 3, 11, and 26 limitations, except the system and method, wherein said one or more servers is a plurality of servers, ones of said plurality being capable of controlling call service functions on others of said plurality of servers, and wherein a call pickup party may be located on any server within the network. Grunsted, however, discloses the system and method, wherein said one or more servers is a plurality of servers, ones of said plurality being capable of controlling call service functions on others of said plurality of servers, and wherein a call pickup party may be located on any server within the network (See col. 4 lines 20-33 and col. 6 lines 18-43).

6. In regards to claim 4, Miloslavsky discloses the system, wherein a parked caller may be picked up from any server within the network (See col. 2 lines 38-49 and col. 8 lines 17-31).

7. In regards to claim 5, Miloslavsky discloses the system, wherein said network failure may include excessive network congestion (See Abstract and col. 4 lines 24-30).

8. In regards to claim 6, Miloslavsky discloses the system, wherein said network failure may include a vacant number (e.g. whether an agent is available or active) (See col. 5 lines 12-19 and col. 5 lines 54-67).

9. In regards to claim 7, Miloslavsky discloses the system, wherein said network failure may include no route to destination (See col. 4 lines 24-30 and col. 5 lines 12-19).

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10. In regards to claims 8, 19, and 20, Miloslavsky discloses the system, wherein said user selectable park location is said destination's background task (See col. 4 lines 31-45).

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Laursen et al (US 6,292,657) teach a method and architecture for managing a fleet of mobile stations over wireless data networks.


13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan P. Knowlin whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.

14. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wing Chan can be reached on (571) 272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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15. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thjuan P. Knowlin



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